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FEB 05 2003

Michael K. Powell  
Chairman  
Federal Communication Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Powell, **Distribution Center**

I am writing to tell you of my opposition to the Federal Communication Commission's proposal to change the current Media Ownership rules.

If this is set it will be undermining our democratic society based on democratic principles. After World War II, the government placed restrictions on news media outlet ownership because of how totalitarian regimes used controlled media concentrated in the hands of a few power-hungry corporations and government agencies to control their people, spread capitalism and move the country and world towards war. The change proposed to the FCC is very contradictory to this principle that our democracy has fought to defend for years.

These changes are focused on the economic impact of relaxing the ownership rules, and ignore the free speech and the diverse and independent press that the American people want. You scheduled only one public hearing about this issue. The FCC barely publicized these changes and did not show them to all the people they will be affecting. Based on this I suppose that you hope to sneak these changes past the people that count and the people whose media will be affected.

Not only will they not allow ~~some~~ issues not to get to the press, issues that are hurtful to America or big about bad traits. If the press and media were in the hands of a few huge corporations a lot of issues would not be shown, ones that would hurt the publics' opinion of those corporations or people favorable to them.

I am very ashamed that this has happened, and that it has happened under your leadership. Hopefully, if these changes are made you'll have the decency to tell people. I guarantee that most people will be severely opposed because it is violating a lot of our rights.

Sincerely,  
Katie Leese  
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Baltimore. MD 21237

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Michael V. Forrester JAN 27 2003

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